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8 July 1947

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I am afraid that I cannot give you very good news regarding your request for reserve training in the Central Intelligence Group. There are several reasons for this. One is that the Navy feels that its reserve officers should be in training for a job in the Navy, and, as we are a bit outside of that category, they do not look with favor on training elsewhere. In fact, we have a number of reserve officers in Central Intelligence who, to keep up their Naval reserve status and training, take their annual two weeks training in the Navy Department in the Office of Naval Intelligence.

Secondly, while your own application would be fine, since you are security-minded enough, if a general rule were made that people would take two weeks training in Central Intelligence, I am afraid that the loss in security because of unwitting conversation would be simply too tremendous. Consequently, the policy has been established that CIG will take no temporary people either for training or temporary employment. It is too difficult and too long a process to secure clearance for those people who are not going to be with us for any great length of time.

In any event, when you come to Washington, be sure and look me up as I should like to have the opportunity of talking to you again.

Very sincerely yours,

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*d/ R. H. - sent 9 Jul 47*  
R. H. HILLENKOTTER  
Rear Admiral, USN  
Director of Central Intelligence

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July 7, 1947

Dear Admiral Hillenkoetter:

After your very pleasant letter of 13 May I had been hoping that one of my cases would take me to Washington in the very near future so that I might extend my congratulations on your new position on a somewhat more personal plane.

I did have a thought in mind which I should have liked to have discussed with you had I been able to come, namely, whether it is possible for reserve officers like myself whose experience lies wholly in the field of centralized intelligence to request annual two-week training duty with the Navy on assignment to the Central Intelligence Group.

The present reserve program of the Navy seems to be directed almost entirely at sea-going sailors and flying aviators. Those of us who did special work with which you are familiar appear to have no definite place in the present reserve program despite the fact that any resumption of hostilities would probably find us assigned to a centralized combat intelligence organization.

Such a program should have the value of providing summer replacements of trained men for your organization and at the same time form a cadre of naval officers who have the necessary background to be of immediate use in any sudden expansion of the war-time duties of the Central Intelligence Group.

Naturally, I am considerably motivated by self-interest as I do not care to lose all of my contact with the Navy and yet it is particularly valueless to give up my vacation each year to be stationed at some airfield where the work has no connection with my previous duties. My thought was that if a regular application for such assignment to active duty would be favorably received by the Bureau of Naval Personnel, I could then request such an assignment through the Commandant of the Third Naval District for the last two weeks in August.

Trusting that in any event I shall have an early opportunity of seeing you, I remain,

Sincerely yours

Rear Admiral R. H. Hillenkoetter, USN  
2430 E Street, NW  
Washington 25, D. C.

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